

Richard Parker

4833 West Braddock Rd

Alexandria, VA 22311

Virginia Air Board
c/o Terry Darton
Air Permit Manager
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Air Board-

The Potomac River Generating Station needs their permit approved by you so that they can get moving on the necessary stack merge. As winter comes near a close and the high summertime electrical needs begin to take their demand the region needs the plant to be operating at top production. The Department of Environmental Quality has repeatedly shown their approval of the stack merge concept as the best solution to ensure good air quality. Now is the time for the Virginia Air Board to end this battle and approve Mirant's operating permit.

This power plant is critical to the region's energy needs and must continue to operate efficiently. The taxpayers have tirelessly watched our hard earned tax dollars go up in smoke with this ongoing battle. I have lived in the area for over 30 years. After retiring from my 31-year tenure with the federal government I continued working in private consulting. Over the years, with the continued growth and development of the D.C. area our water & air quality have sorely deteriorated. It is important that we focus on being more environmentally friendly and continue to support the efforts of local industries in their attempts to being responsible. Mirant will be paying the \$30 million, which will be required to complete the stack merge. If you approve this permit, the tax burden that the opposition is causing to the local citizens will end.

Alexandria's residents are at stake if the plant shuts down and it is your responsibility to make decisions that will support the economy rather than hinder it. Our city has a duty to show not only our nation, but also the world that we are assertively making decisions that improve air quality while not affecting the economy. Do the right thing by granting this permit to the Potomac River Generating Station.

Thank you for your help,


Richard Parker